

HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
MINNESOTA



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C.

American Embassy, Moscow
December 1, 1972

Dr. Edward E. David, Jr.
Office of Science and Technology
Executive Office of the President
Executive Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20506

Dear Dr. David:

As a result of our Congressional Delegation visit here during the week of November 27 - December 2 inclusive, it is abundantly clear that the Soviet government as a matter of policy restricts the timely dissemination of the type of crop information we normally publicly provide and consider minimally essential.

As the U. S. Congress will be considering prospective Soviet agricultural purchases from the United States in preparing new agricultural legislation it is imperative that we move mutually toward improvement in this area of information. If the United States farmer can not plan better to meet future Soviet purchases this potentially beneficial market may lose a good deal of its attractiveness.

In accordance with the Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, signed May 24, 1972, on Cooperation in the Field of Science and Technology specific understandings are now being worked out. We the undersigned members of the United States Congress recommend inclusion in the Memorandum of Cooperation on Science and Technology Research in the Field of Agriculture the following problem area, i.e. improved techniques for developing technical and statistical systems for crop reporting on a timely, accurate and reciprocal basis.

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In our meeting with Minister Matskevich this matter was specifically discussed. It is our understanding that he would agree to support this if it were included as a specific program area in the Memorandum of Cooperation.

Yours truly,

Hubert H. Humphrey
United States Senator

Henry Bellmon
United States Senator

Henry S. Reuss
United States Representative